

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): A method for producing a membrane comprising forming said membrane from a copolymer A comprising

- a) from 50 to 99% by weight of at least one N-vinyl lactam or N-vinylamine selected from the group consisting of N-vinylpyrrolidone, N-vinylpiperidone, N-vinylcaprolactam, N-vinylimidazole, methylated N-vinylimidazole, and N-vinylformamide, and
- b) from 1 to 50% by weight of at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of
  - b1) C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-alkyl esters of monoethylenically unsaturated C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> carboxylic acids;
  - b2) N-C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-alkyl-substituted amides of monoethylenically unsaturated C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> carboxylic acids;
  - b3) N,N-C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-dialkyl-substituted amides of monoethylenically unsaturated C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> carboxylic acids;
  - b4) vinyl esters of aliphatic C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub> carboxylic acids; and
  - b5) C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-alkyl vinyl ethers

and a hydrophobic polymer B selected from the group consisting of polysulfones, polycarbonates, polyamides, polyvinyl chloride, hydrophobically modified acrylic polymers, polyethers, polyurethanes, polyurethane copolymers, water-insoluble cellulose derivatives, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein copolymer A comprises

- a) from 60 to 99% by weight of N-vinylpyrrolidone and
- b) from 1 to 40% by weight of at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of
  - b1) C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-alkyl esters of monoethylenically unsaturated C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> carboxylic acids;
  - b2) N-C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-alkyl-substituted amides of monoethylenically unsaturated C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> carboxylic acids;
  - b3) N,N-C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-dialkyl-substituted amides of monoethylenically unsaturated C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> carboxylic acids;
  - b4) vinyl esters of aliphatic C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub> carboxylic acids; and
  - b5) C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-alkyl vinyl ethers.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein copolymer

A comprises

- a) from 60 to 99% by weight of N-vinylpyrrolidone and
- b) from 1 to 40% by weight of at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of
  - b1) C<sub>12</sub>-C<sub>22</sub>-alkyl esters of monoethylenically unsaturated C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> carboxylic acids;
  - b2) N-C<sub>12</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkyl-substituted amides of monoethylenically unsaturated C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> carboxylic acids;
  - b3) N,N-C<sub>12</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-dialkyl-substituted amides of monoethylenically unsaturated C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> carboxylic acids;
  - b4) vinyl esters of aliphatic C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>18</sub> carboxylic acids; and
  - b5) C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>22</sub>-alkyl vinyl ethers.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the copolymer A is ~~used in amounts~~ present in an amount of from 0.1 to 25% by weight, based on the total amount of polymers ~~used~~.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the copolymer A is ~~used~~ present in combination with one or more further polymers.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hydrophobic polymer B is ~~used in amounts~~ present in an amount of from 50 to 99.9% by weight, based on the total amount of polymers ~~used~~.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the membrane further comprises, as polymer C, at least one hydrophilic polymers selected from the group consisting of polyvinylpyrrolidones, polyethylene glycols, polyethylene glycol monoesters, polyethylene glycol-propylene glycol copolymers, water-soluble cellulose derivatives, polysorbates, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the hydrophilic polymer C is ~~used in amounts~~ present in an amount of from 10 to 40% by weight, based on the total amount of polymers ~~used~~.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): A semipermeable, water-wettable membrane comprising at least one copolymer A formed from

- a) from 50 to 99% by weight of at least one N-vinyl lactam or N-vinylamine selected from the group consisting of N-vinylpyrrolidone, N-vinylpiperidone, N-vinylcaprolactam, N-vinylimidazole, methylated N-vinylimidazole, and N-vinylformamide, and
- b) from 1 to 50% by weight of at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of
  - b1) C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-alkyl esters of monoethylenically unsaturated C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> carboxylic acids;
  - b2) N-C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-alkyl-substituted amides of monoethylenically unsaturated C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> carboxylic acids;
  - b3) N,N-C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-dialkyl-substituted amides of monoethylenically unsaturated C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> carboxylic acids;
  - b4) vinyl esters of aliphatic C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub> carboxylic acids; and
  - b5) C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-alkyl vinyl ethers,

and a hydrophobic polymer component B, selected from the group consisting of polysulfones, polycarbonates, polyamides, polyvinyl chloride, hydrophobically modified acrylic polymers, polyethers, polyurethanes, polyurethane copolymers, cellulose acetates, cellulose nitrates, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A membrane as claimed in claim 9, ~~obtainable using~~ a comprising copolymer A in an amounts of from 0.1 to 25% by weight.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A membrane as claimed in claim 9, further comprising ~~in addition~~ a hydrophilic polymer C selected from the group consisting of polyvinylpyrrolidones, polyethylene glycols, polyglycol monoesters, copolymers of

polyethylene glycol with propylene glycol, water-soluble derivatives of cellulose, polysorbates, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 12 (New): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein copolymer A comprises monomer b1.

Claim 13 (New): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein copolymer A comprises monomer b2.

Claim 14 (New): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein copolymer A comprises monomer b3.

Claim 15 (New): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein copolymer A comprises monomer b4.

Claim 16 (New): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein copolymer A comprises monomer b5.

Claim 17 (New): A membrane as claimed in claim 9, wherein copolymer A comprises monomer b1.

Claim 18 (New): A membrane as claimed in claim 9, wherein copolymer A comprises monomer b2.

Claim 19 (New): A membrane as claimed in claim 9, wherein copolymer A comprises monomer b3.

Claim 20 (New): A membrane as claimed in claim 9, wherein copolymer A comprises monomer b4.

Claim 21 (New): A membrane as claimed in claim 9, wherein copolymer A comprises monomer b5.